## **BUDGET RESOLUTION/\$1 Billion Defense Cut for Domestic Spending**

SUBJECT: Senate Concurrent Budget Resolution for fiscal years 1996-2002 . . . S. Con. Res. 13. Lautenberg amendment No. 1168.

## **ACTION: AMENDMENT REJECTED, 31-68**

SYNOPSIS: As reported, S. Con. Res. 13, the fiscal year 1996 Concurrent Budget Resolution, will reduce projected spending over 7 years to balance the budget by fiscal year (FY) 2002 without increasing taxes. Savings that will accrue from lower debt service payments (an estimated \$170 billion) will be dedicated to a reserve fund, which may be used for tax reductions after enactment of laws to ensure a balanced budget. Highlights include the following: the rate of growth in Medicare will be slowed to 7.1 percent; Medicaid's rate of growth will be slowed to 5 percent and it will be transformed into a block grant program; the Commerce Department and more than 100 other Federal programs, agencies, and commissions will be eliminated; welfare and housing programs will be reformed; agriculture, energy, and transportation subsidies will be cut; foreign aid will be cut; defense spending will be cut and then allowed to increase back to its 1995 level; and Social Security will not be altered.

The Lautenberg amendment cut reduce defense spending by \$1 billion and would increase nondefense discretionary spending by the same amount, with the stated intent of cutting "wasteful bureaucratic overhead and wasteful procurement" in the defense budget and increasing spending to combat illegal immigration.

The amendment was offered after all debate time had expired. However, some statements on amendments were added to the record or were made before the amendments were offered and before debate time had expired. Also, by unanimous consent, 1 minute of time was allowed on each amendment for explanatory statements before each vote.

## Those favoring the amendment contended:

The Lautenberg amendment would cut \$1 billion in wasteful Defense Department spending and would use the savings to stem illegal immigration. The United States needs more border control agents to stop the torrent of illegal immigrants sneaking into the

(See other side)

YEAS (31)			NAYS (68)			NOT VOTING (1)	
Republicans (1 or 2%)	Democrats (30 or 67%)		Republicans (53 or 98%)		Democrats (15 or 33%)	Republicans (0)	Democrats (1)
Hatfield	Akaka Baucus Boxer Bradley Breaux Bryan Bumpers Byrd Daschle Dodd Feingold Feinstein Ford Graham Harkin	Hollings Kennedy Kerry Kohl Lautenberg Levin Moseley-Braun Moynihan Pell Pryor Reid Rockefeller Sarbanes Simon Wellstone	Abraham Ashcroft Bennett Bond Brown Burns Campbell Chafee Coats Cochran Cohen Coverdell Craig D'Amato DeWine Dole Domenici Faircloth Frist Gorton Gramm Grams Grassley Gregg Hatch Helms	Hutchison Inhofe Jeffords Kassebaum Kempthorne Kyl Lott Lugar Mack McCain McConnell Murkowski Nickles Packwood Pressler Roth Santorum Shelby Simpson Smith Snowe Specter Stevens Thomas Thompson Thurmond Warner	Biden Bingaman Conrad Dorgan Exon Glenn Heflin Inouye Johnston Kerrey Leahy Lieberman Murray Nunn Robb		Mikulski- <sup>2</sup> Mikulski- <sup>2</sup> FION OF ABSENCE Buisiness rily Absent  Inced Yea Inced Nay Yea

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country. At a minimum, the United States should be able to agree to eliminate \$1 billion in wasteful, bureaucratic defense spending so that amount may be instead spent on border-control efforts.

## **Those opposing** the amendment contended:

The Lautenberg amendment would cut defense spending by another \$1 billion; how that \$1 billion would then be spent is an open question. Senators may think that this amendment would cut "wasteful" defense spending to pay for border control activities, but all it would really do is cut \$1 billion from the Defense Department budget, whether wasteful spending or not, and spend that money on domestic discretionary programs. We oppose chipping away at the safety of our country in order to pay for domestic programs, and we thus oppose this amendment.